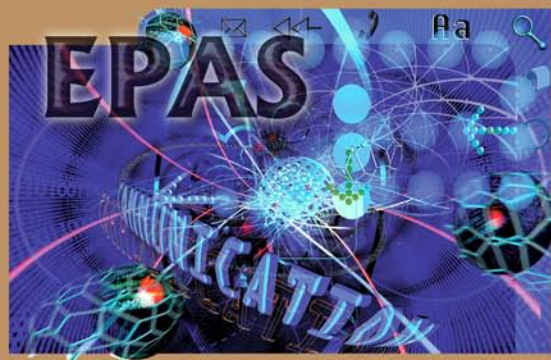




# EPAS

## ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM PROGRAM



### INTERNAL ASSESSMENTS

Army leaders use the Environmental Performance Assessment System (EPAS) program to achieve, maintain, and monitor environmental compliance. As part of the EPAS process, installations are required to conduct internal environmental assessments. These assessments are critical to maintaining a strong compliance posture.

The Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management's (ACSIM) 18 October 2002 memorandum provided guidance requiring installations to develop Installation Internal Assessment Plans (IIAP) and to annually perform internal assessments. The ACSIM released a second memorandum on 22 December 2003 requiring the use of the EPAS software to document results of Army installation external and internal assessments.

### STEP 1: THE IIAP PROCESS

Per the memorandum and requirements outlined in Army Regulation 200-1, the assessment process begins by developing and updating an IIAP. The IIAP lays out each installation's approach to conducting internal assessments by identifying:

- All areas and locations to be assessed
- Management requirements for specific media program areas
- Required inspections and/or monitoring
- Inspection priorities
- Frequency of internal assessments, key personnel, and assessment schedule

Once these items are identified, on-site installation staff conduct internal assessments over the course of each year. Typically, installation environmental office representatives team up with personnel from the operation being assessed to conduct the evaluation.

### For more information

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Together they review and follow up on corrective actions identified during previous external and internal assessments, evaluate the installation's compliance with any new or existing regulatory requirements, and address any special emphasis areas specified by higher command.

## **STEP 2: COMPLIANCE EVALUATION**

After completing the IIAP, installation environmental professionals use the plan to perform compliance evaluations that identify, characterize, and document compliance deficiencies related to individual practices and environmental programs. Once deficiencies are identified, operation owners inspect practices and associated environmental control measures. The final step in the internal assessment process is to define compliance problems, analyze their causes, and then select, implement, monitor, and modify corrective and preventive actions to achieve the specified results.

## **STEP 3: REPORTING**

All data resulting from the internal assessment is entered into the EPAS Web-based software application, which then populates the Installation Corrective Action Plan (ICAP). Installation staff use the ICAP to examine findings, update corrective actions and funding data related to the findings, and update the status of the findings.

